

Prehistoric Trackways National Monument Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement

ABSTRACT

The Prehistoric Trackways National Monument Proposed Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) considers and evaluates alternative management strategies and their potential effects on lands and resources administered by the Bureau of Land Management's Las Cruces District Office in south-central New Mexico. The *Planning Area* is located within Doña Ana County and includes approximately 5,280 surface acres and 4,812 acres of Federal minerals administered by the Las Cruces District Office. BLM management decisions considered in the Plan must be consistent with the *Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009*.

This EIS analyzes four alternatives in detail. Alternative A, the No Action Alternative, is defined by the *Mimbres RMP* (1993) and the *Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009*, which is the legislation designating the Monument. This Alternative provides for a baseline of comparison against the other alternatives. Alternative B is the most restrictive in human interventions; use of the Monument's resources would be minimal, designed towards more resource preservation, and natural processes would continue at the current rate. Alternative C, the BLM's preferred alternative, strives to balance the protection and enhancement of natural and paleontological values with resource uses and development. Alternative D emphasizes resource uses and provides for the greatest opportunities for resource uses, development, and recreation while still following the constraints of the designating Legislation. Upon completion, the RMP will provide direction for the long-term management of all public land and resources within the Prehistoric Trackways National Monument.

Pursuant to BLM's planning regulations at 43 CFR 1610.5-2, any person who participated in the planning process for this Proposed RMP and has an interest which is or may be adversely affected by the planning decisions may protest approval of the planning decisions within 30 days from date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register.

RECOMMENDED:

APPROVED:


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